

U.S. Embassy Lilongwe, Malawi
Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens
Death of President Bingu Wa Mutharika/Possibility of Civil Unrest
April 6, 2012

This message is to inform U.S. citizens in Malawi that State House and media reports that President Bingu wa Mutharika has died in South Africa. The U.S. Embassy sends its deepest condolences to the people of Malawi on the passing of their president.

There is an increased potential for political instability and/or civil unrest in coming days and we urge all U.S. citizens to exercise caution and remained tuned to media sources. We urge U.S. Citizens in Malawi to avoid large crowds, including public mourning events, and to keep personal provisions on hand.

U.S. Citizens are encouraged to stay informed and to practice good situational awareness when they are moving about in Malawi. We urge U.S. citizens to avoid large groups or gatherings. If you are in an area where you feel threatened, leave the area immediately. We remind you that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can change quickly and potentially escalate into violence.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the [U.S. Embassy Lilongwe](#) web site. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#) where you can find the current [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warning](#), Travel Alerts, and [Country Specific Information](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well or you can download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App for travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Malawi, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

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